IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Johannes Becker

Serial No.:

10/706,365

Filed:

November 12, 2003

Title:

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SECURING AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT

AS AGAINST SUBSEQUENT REPROGRAMMING

Grp./A.U.:

2135

Examiner:

Suman Debnath

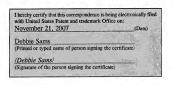
Confirmation No.:

6816

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c)

Before continuing examination of the above-identified application, please refer to the below arguments and amend the claims as indicated.